

County Record

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Week of Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Memorial Day weekend....

Names of war dead live in community

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Memorial Day is set aside as a special day of tribute to the men and women who have lost their lives while serving in the U.S. military. But in Orange County, remembrances of those lost in wars is part of our everyday life, though some may not know those tributes.

The special day is rooted in the first years after the Civil War as loved ones decorated the graves of the tens of thousands of soldiers who died during the conflict, which killed more Americans than any other war.

Even though the states that had been in the confederacy did not use the last day in May for remembrance, the day became accepted nationwide after World War I. Congress made Memorial Day an official holiday in 1971 to be the last Monday of May to allow for a three-day weekend.

That day though is more than a time for store sales and celebrations for the beginning of summer.

In Orange, the Lloyd Grubbs American Legion Post on Green Avenue pays tribute to a young man from Orange who was killed during the first World War. The 1986 book "Orange: Gateway to Texas" by the late Dr. Howard Williams reports Grubbs was killed in action on October 2, 1918.

The book lists 16 men from Orange County who died in that war, with some listed as a "domestic death." Those were attributed to the Great Influenza epidemic that swept through military barracks and spread across the world.

MEMORIAL Page 3A

Corps will discuss OC levee project online Thursday

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Orange County residents will be able to get the latest update on the 26.3 mile levee system plan during a virtual meeting Thursday with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The corps' latest projections call for the construction to begin in 2025 and last through 2030, with the system being finished in 2031.

The virtual meeting will be online through the corps' Galveston district website from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 25. The corps last held an online update this past October. Corps representatives were in person in the county in April 2022.

The Orange County system is estimated to cost \$4.2 billion and Congress has allocated some of that already. The local sponsors are Orange County and the Orange County Drainage District.

Orange County will be the first county to get new levees and seawalls under a plan to protect the whole Gulf Coast of Texas from rising seas and storm surges, plus provide extra protection against rainfall and river floodings.

The current plans call for the county to have 20 miles of new earthen levees, plus three miles of concrete seawalls. The system will go from the Bridge City marshes and along the Sabine River to nearly Interstate 10.

The system will also include 14 to 16 new pump stations to help move floodwaters out of the county into the rivers and bayous. Also, 150-200 gravity-operated storm drains will be included.

The project is set to include 40 closure gates at roads and railroads, along with two lift gates, one at Cow Bayou and one at Adams Bayou. The lift gates

OC LEVEE Page 3A



The second annual "500 For Life" motorcycle rally was held Saturday. Orange County Sheriff Lane Mooney and rally organizer J.W. Dalton spoke to those attending the 500 For Life about the need for motorists to be more aware of motorcycles when driving on highways and city streets. Over fifty motorcyclists rode together from Beaumont to Orange to promote safety.

SEE FULL STORY AND PHOTOS PAGE 1 SECTION B.

Famous priest marks anniversary in Orange County this weekend

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Father Jim Sichko, a Roman Catholic priest who has traveled the world as a missionary of mercy for Pope Francis, will return to his hometown this weekend to celebrate his 25th anniversary of his ordination.

The graduate of West Orange-Stark High School has become internationally famous for his giving as he raises money to give away. He has helped thousands of people after disasters and through personal tragedies. He also hands out cash or gift cards to strangers as a way to brighten their day.

Sichko will be mass at St. Mary and St. Therese, both in the Old Orange Historic District. His masses at St. Mary, 912 Cherry Avenue, will be Saturday, May 27, at 4:30 p.m., and Sunday, May 28, at 10 a.m. St. Therese is at 1409 Sixth Street, and he



Father Jim Sichko, a papal missionary of mercy, will be in Orange this weekend presenting mass at St. Mary and St. Therese Catholic churches. He has become internationally known for his evangelical work and charity. He travels nearly every week and likes to take selfies of himself as he begins early morning flights. In 2018, he made worldwide news when he was in the Vatican and gave Pope Francis of bottle of rare Kentucky bourbon.

will be there at 8:30 a.m. mass Sunday.

Sichko is the son of the late Bill and Marie Sichko and he grew up in St. Mary Parish here. He has been

volunteering to help others since he was a child.

Though he is now based outside of Lexington, Kentucky, he has remained close to his friends and

family here and travels back home often. His sister, Thereze Sichko, is the long-time secretary for the West Orange-Stark athletic department and he usually stays at her house, accompanied by his service dog, Gracie Marie, a bloodhound who assists him in his evangelical work.

Sichko had his ordination at his home church in Orange and has since spread out. He became known for coercing performing stars like Dolly Parton, Harry Connick Jr., and Jay Leno to perform for benefits to help raise money for his Kentucky church.

He also became known for his inspirational messages and has published two books with collections of his wisdom and thoughts of God.

Seven years ago, Pope Francis made him an official papal missionary of

FATHER JIM Page 3A

SRA donates floating dock to Orange

STAFF REPORT
For The Record

The Sabine River Authority of Texas (SRA) recently completed construction and installation of a 100-ft floating dock and pier structure to compliment the City of Orange's pavilion at the Simmons Drive Public Boat Ramp. The improvements are part of SRA's initiative to promote recreational access to the

Sabine River. David Montagne, SRA's Executive Vice-President and General Manager stated, "The City's initiative to invest in facilities at the Simmons Drive boat ramp to attract more events on the Sabine River aligns with SRA's efforts to promote recreation throughout the basin."

This project was made possible by funding through a Special Community As-

sistance Grant which is part of SRA's community assistance program approved by its Board of Directors to help promote the quality and quantity of services essential for the development of a viable community.

The Sabine River Authority was created by the Legislature in 1949 as an official agency of the State of Texas and covers all or part of 21 counties in East Texas.

The Authority serves as a conservation and reclamation district with responsibilities to control, store, preserve, and distribute the waters of the Sabine River and its tributary streams for useful purposes.

For more information about SRA's Community Assistance Program, contact Zach Johnson at (409) 746-2192 or email: cap@srattx.org.



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SEE OUR AD PAGE 1 SECTION B

My 5-Cents By State Sen. Robert Nichols

A weekly column by Sen. Robert Nichols, Senate District 3

On May 18, 1912 the USS Texas, also known as Battleship Texas, launched and quickly became one of the most powerful weapons in the world. It is credited with the introduction and innovation of advances in gunnery, aviation, and radar. She is the last surviving Dreadnought and the only battleship in existence today that fought in both World War I and World War II.

Here are five things happening around your state:

1. New fund to support creation of more state parks passes House

Senate Bill 1648 and Senate Joint Resolution 74, authored by Senator Tan Parker and sponsored by Representative Armando



Sen. Nichols

Walle, both passed the Texas House this week and are on their way to the Governor for his signature. With voter approval, the bills together would create a Centennial Parks Conservation Fund and invest \$1 billion to buy more land to create new state parks and maintain existing parks. The fund will grow with interest over time to continue growing the park system. Texas Parks and Wildlife is celebrating 100 years of state parks this year, a fitting time to dedicate this fund. This November, voters in Texas will have the opportunity to approve the new constitutionally dedicated fund.

2. Name, Image, and Likeness update bill passes Senate

This week the Senate

passed House Bill 2804, authored by Representative John Kuempel, and sponsored by Senator Brandon Creighton. This bill continues the work from last session when the legislature established a name, image, and likeness law in Texas. HB 2804 keeps Texas competitive in the NIL space by allowing college athletes to profit using the school's trademark if the school approves and charges a market rate for its use. Additionally, the bill allows universities to help student athletes entering NIL contracts and maintains confidentiality of related information. As the NIL space continues to evolve and develop, it is imperative that Texas universities continue to be competitive and create a welcome environment for student athletes to thrive.

3. Senate Bill 15 passes House, goes to Governor's desk

The Texas House passed Senate Bill 15 this week, sending it to the Governor for final approval. The bill, authored by Senator Mayes Middleton and sponsored by Representative Valoree Swanson, protects women's sports at the collegiate level by requiring athletes to compete in competitions based on biological sex. In recent years, concern over biological males competing against biological females in interscholastic events have been highlighted in various instances, particularly at the NCAA women's swimming championship. Allowing men to compete against women is unfair to women and takes opportunities away from deserving women who otherwise could have competed at that level. The bill does have allowances for women to participate in athletic programs for men that do not have a corresponding team available to them, such as football. During the Third Called Special Ses-

sion of the 87th Legislature, the Texas Legislature passed a bill protecting women's sports at the elementary and high school levels. This year, we continue that work to protect women's sports at the collegiate level.

4. Senate passes sales tax exemption for certain family care items

Senator Joan Huffman authored Senate Bill 379, which passed the Senate this week. The bill would give a sales tax exemption for wound care dressings, adult or children's diapers, baby wipes, feminine hygiene products, maternity clothing, baby bottles, and breast milk pumping products.

These items are all essential for women and families – whether welcoming new family members or caring for elderly family members. Giving a tax break for essential items alleviates what some have deemed “the pink tax.” The mea-

sure would save taxpayers over \$100 million a year.

5. T.L.L. Temple Foundation invests in CDL program at Lamar State College Port Arthur

This year, Lamar State College Port Arthur sought to significantly expand their commercial driver's academy and examination facilities. LSCPA secured a grant from the Economic Development Administration, acquired land in Jefferson County, and funds from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief program to expand the program. However, last minute costs required an infusion of funds and the Temple Foundation stepped in.

The program was able to increase enrollment from 185 to 230 enrollees and will surpass 300 in coming years.

Hundred of Texans will graduate from this program and immediately start careers as drivers with well-paying income.

MOTHER'S DAY ADVENTURE

Sen. Carl Parker For The Record

There is not much excitement when you reach 88 years of age. But this Mother's Day was a little different.

Saturday morning I was awakened by my wife announcing that there appeared to be a cat stuck in our chimney in the living room fireplace. If you have never had a cat stuck in your chimney, you need to know that it presents quite a challenge.

A few years back our neighbor moved out and abandoned a herd of feral cats who immediately adopted us as their new homestead. Animal lover that I am, I managed to trap all the cats and have them neutered and have been putting



Former State Senator Carl Parker

food out for them for several years. Though moved emotionally by the sounds emanating from the rather tall chimney, we were dumbfounded about how we could go about extracting the cat from where she was trapped. Of course, a quick check of our computer and other sources did not reveal any specific service

available, particularly on a holiday weekend which specialized in removing cats from chimneys. We did contact a chimney sweep who said he would come Sunday and help if we were not able to remove her before then.

Our house has a rather steep roof accompanied by an even taller chimney which made it virtually impossible to find implements to reach from the top down to seize the cat and lift her out. Therefore, we were left with the option of trying to see how we could extract the cat down into the fireplace.

With the help from our daughter, daughter-in-law and grandson (involving a great deal of ingenuity) we were able to open the flus to their full extent and baited

the cat with an open can of tuna fish placed in the fire place. To our delight, not long after the cat dropped out of the chimney into the fireplace and lodged herself behind the artificial logs. It was at this point we began to realize that perhaps the cat did not want to be rescued. When attempting to pick the cat up to remove her from the house, we were met with claws, screeching and bites.

Even with the appropriate wrappings such as an old quilt or blanket we could not get the cat out to lift her from her position where she was lodged. Finally in frustration we closed the doors to the fireplace, gave up for the day and went to bed, hoping by morning we would come up with some solution.

The Record Newspapers of Orange County, Texas

The Record Newspapers- The County Record and the Penny Record- are published on Wednesday of each week and distributed free throughout greater Orange County, Texas. The publications feature community news, local sports, commentary and much more. Readers may also read each issue of our papers from our web site TheRecordLive.Com.

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Chad Dallas named Eastern League 'Pitcher of the Week'



**Staff Report
For The Record**

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Right-handed pitcher Chad Dallas of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats, the Double-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays, was named the Eastern League Pitcher of the Week. The 22-year-old tossed seven scoreless innings in his Double-A debut Friday in a 6-0 win over the Binghamton Rumble Ponies.

He is a graduate of West Orange-Stark High and is known by his nickname, "Cheese."

Dallas faced just three over the min-

imum, striking out nine batters. He allowed just two singles and two walks. Dallas also induced nine ground ball outs, with only one flyout and one pop out. After a leadoff single in the first, Binghamton did not collect another hit until the seventh. Dallas fanned five consecutive batters after the first-inning base hit and retired 11 straight from the third through the end of the sixth.

The Orange, Texas native joined the Fisher Cats last Tuesday after making five starts with High-A Vancouver to begin the season. At the time of his promotion, Dallas led the Northwest League in ERA (2.03) and batting average against (.146). He was named the circuit's Pitcher of the Week on May 7 after giving up one unearned run on one hit in a six-inning start at Hillsboro May 3.

Last year in his first professional season, Dallas had a 4.60 ERA in 21 starts with Vancouver. He pitched five hitless innings at Tri-City in his Minor League debut April 13, 2022, and he was named the Northwest League Pitcher of the Week.

New plant has already spent \$53 million here

**Margaret Toal
For The Record**

The new Golden Triangle Polymers plant has already spent nearly \$53 million in Orange County and has spent \$17.6 million on local companies for contracted work.

Officials from Chevron Phillips, owner of the \$8.5 billion plant site being readied for construction, gave the figures in their first quarterly report to Orange County Commissioners Court Monday.

However, even though commissioners were pleased at the industrial news, the meeting had a touch of sadness. Commissioners Court said goodbye to the Orange County Salvation Army Captains Frankie and Jan Zuniga. The couple has been transferred to McAllen, Texas.

The court issued a proclamation in tribute to the couple and presented them with a plaque of appreciation for their local work. No other local Salvation Army captain in recent memory has received such a tribute.

The Zunigas moved to Orange with their two young daughters in the summer of 2017, weeks before Hurricane Harvey flooded most of the county and left hundreds homeless. The Zunigas, veterans of Salvation Army life, had never overseen such a disaster.

Since then, the county has experienced more hurricanes and even two tornadoes. Through each disaster, the Zunigas and the local Salvation Army have assisted in helping families and individuals.

Commissioners and County Judge John Gothia praised them for their work. "We have certainly together have gotten through trials and tribulations," during the past six years, he said. "You served Orange County extremely well."

Frankie Zuniga said the plaque belongs "to all the people in the background supporting us." He praised the local army's staff and volunteers.

Jan Zuniga said "Orange County has been very much a part of our lives." The family has relatives in Florida and when they travel from McAllen there, they will be sure to stop in Orange for their favorite things, mentioning the Blue Bird Fish Camp hamburgers.

"We thank you for taking us in and allowing us to be part of your family," she told commissioners.

During the Chevron Phillips presenta-

tion on Golden Triangle Polymers, Heather Betancourt from the corporation gave a financial and jobs report for the first quarter of the 2023. The report is the first, and the quarterly reports are required as part of the tax abatement deal with the county.

She said they included figures from the last quarter of 2022, though work at the 2,000 acre site started before the company made the final announcement in October that the plant would be built here.

At the end of 2022, the company had spent \$32 million. In the first quarter this year, the company has spend close to \$21 million. In addition, the company reports expenditures of nearly \$527,000 on "small credit card purchases" like caterers bringing meals to the site.

Individuals looking for jobs should contact Texas Workforce Solutions, where they will be assessed for their skills and experience. Some have been referred for extra training. Chevron Phillips has also worked with LSCO and public schools to assist with needed training.

Vendors and contractors must also go through a company process to be approved to submit bids. Once they are approved, they will be able to bid on items and services needed. The Local First website will give instructions.

Judge Gothia mentioned that part of the county's agreement with the company included giving local workers, contractors, and small vendors chances to bid on projects and purchases.

Betancourt said the corporation's Local First program was set up for Orange County. It is a joint project including the county, Texas Workforce Solutions, and Lamar State College Orange to get county residents jobs, sales, and contracts with the company.

A couple of Job Fairs have already been held and another one is set June 24 at the Orange County Expo Center on FM 1442. Individuals, vendors, and contractors will be able to get information on how to get jobs or business for the new plant.

Betancourt said "local" is described as people living in Orange, Jefferson, Newton, Jasper, Hardin, Tyler, and Chambers County, along with the Bolivar Peninsula area of Galveston County.

Other business included the court unanimously passing a resolution in support of the new countywide voting center system.

Father Jim Sichko From Page 1

mercy. He made world-wide news, and the comedy shows, when he visited the Vatican and gave the pope a bottle of Pappy Van Winkle rare bourbon. The gift brought a big smile from the pope and that photograph traveled the globe.

Someone, or two, or three, leaves bottles of collectible Kentucky bourbons on Sichko's doorstep each week. He gifts the bourbon to people or auctions them to help his mission.

His parents had Italian roots and his mother was locally renowned for her cooking and generosity. Sichko worked with a company to carefully recreate her spaghetti sauce recipe and it is now sold as Miss Marie's Spaghetti Sauce. Proceeds from the sauce go to three different charities, including the Hospice of Southeast Texas in Orange.

Sichko has also been among the first to come help his hometown after



Father Jim Sichko will be in Orange this weekend presenting mass at St. Mary and St. Therese Catholic churches.

the hurricane disasters in recent years. His donors filled an 18-wheel trailer with goods he brought here and handed out with gift cards and cash. He

also collected books and supplies to help the Orangefield school district after Harvey and paid utility bills for parents needing some help.

Memorial Day remembrances From Page 1

World War II saw a huge population boom in Orange with the shipbuilding industry, but the county sent off hundreds of "boys" to fight, including many who did not return.

The first three to die were Lt. William Tilley, Donald Manley, and Colburn. When the defense department erected some 5,000 houses for the shipyard workers in an area called Riverside, three elementary schools were named for the three men.

Tilley was the last of those schools to stand and served as the original home 50 years ago of a branch of Lamar Tech (now University), which evolved into Lamar State College Orange. The then-new college was nicknamed "Tilley Tech."

Today, LSCO honors its roots, and the late lieutenant, as its gator mascot is named "Tilley."

The old West Orange school district honored Carl Godwin when it built its first high school in the early 1950s. Godwin was

the first young man from that community who was killed in action. The Carl Godwin Auditorium served the campus and the community, becoming the home to dozens of concerts and shows.

Though the school campus was sold to a private owner a decade ago, the name Carl Godwin is still prominently displayed on the front of the building along Western Avenue.

After World War II, the Baby Boom generation was born and their parents needed housing. Local developer V.J. Zeto built a number of subdivisions around the county. The Charlemont subdivision, built in the late 1950s and early 1960s, honored some of those lost in the war.

Cul-de-sacs in the back of the subdivision are named for William Tilley, Donald Manley, Carl Godwin, John Baker and Wilson Maxwell.

The Vietnam War came in the 1960s. Sgt. Emmett Harvey Horn of Vidor was

the first Orange County officer to die in Vietnam. He was an Army Green Beret and died at the age of 29 in December 1964. He was mentioned in a song on the hit album featuring by Barry Sadler "Ballads of The Green Beret." Horn was a 1954 graduate of Vidor High and the VFW Post in Vidor is named in his honor.

Vidor's Veterans Park has a tribute wall to the 28 members of the military lost during the Vietnam War. The late Jerry Hatch, a veteran of that war and a 1964 Stark High graduate, led the way to raise money for the tribute.

Gatch also compiled a booklet with biographies and information on those local men who died in that war. The booklet is at the Orange and Vidor libraries.

In addition, a memorial to the Vietnam War dead is also on the front lawn of the Orange County Courthouse.

OC levee project update From Page 1

will be able to be closed during a storm surge and still allow boat navigation.

The Texas Legislature created a funding system to help pay for local shares of the protection system. A regional special district was created to oversee the

complete coastal project. Orange County Precinct 3 Commissioner Kirk Rocaforte is the local representative on the special district's board.

The link for the virtual meeting can be found on the Galveston U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers website at swg.usace.army.mil. The link for the Orange County meeting can be found at the top of the page. The link also includes the latest map of the plans and a brochure outlining the project.



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From the Creaux's Nest

TODAY MARKS ONE YEAR SINCE UVALDE

On May 24, 2022, **Salvador Ramos** and his 66-year-old grandmother had an argument over his failure to graduate from high school at their home in **Uvalde**, during which he shot her in the face, before taking her black **2008 Ford F-150**. She survived and got help from neighbors while police officers were called in. She was then airlifted to a hospital in **San Antonio** in critical condition. **Ramos** crashed his grandmother's truck through a barricade and into a concrete ditch outside **Robb Elementary School** at 11:28 a.m. CDT (UTC-5) and proceeded to scale a fence and enter school grounds. A mass shooting occurred at **Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas**, where **18-year-old Salvador Ramos**, a former student at the school, fatally shot nineteen students and two teachers, while seventeen others were injured but survived. **He fired shots for approximately five minutes** outside the school, before entering unobstructed through an unlocked side entrance door with an **"AR-15 style rifle"** AR-15 style rifle. He then shut himself inside two adjoining classrooms, without locking the classroom door, and killed the victims. **Ramos remained** in the school for **more than an hour** before members of the **United States Border Patrol Tactical Unit** fatally shot him after bypassing numerous local and state officers who had been in the school's hallways for over an hour. **Police officers waited more than 1 hour and 14 minutes on-site** before breaching the classroom to engage the shooter. It was the deadliest shooting ever at a **Texas public school**. Officers arrived three minutes after **Ramos** entered the school and approached rooms **111 and 112**, but they retreated after **Ramos** fires at them. Officers were not successful in establishing negotiations. Apparently officers feared the type of gun the killer was using, which he had legally bought in **Texas at age 18**. One year has gone by and nothing has been done to **change the law are raise the age limit**. In the wake of the shooting, some parents have become **advocates of gun reform** in the state, including pushing a measure to **raise the age to purchase semi-automatic rifles** like the one used by the **18-year-old gunman**. The majority of mass killings are committed with firearms. These events usually happen about **two dozen times a year**. The horror and tragedy of mass shootings in American schools, churches and other public **places capture the nation's attention**. Unfortunately **mass shootings** will continue. Over 600 have occurred in the one year since **Uvalde**.

ST. HENRY CELEBRATES DIAMOND JUBILEE

Tenna Walker, a St. Henry parishioner, has written a great historical article in the East Texas Catholic magazine about the history of St. Henry Parish. (A few excerpts.)

St. Henry Parish will celebrate its 75th anniversary as a parish church with festivities on **June 4**. These festivities will include Mass with **Bishop David Toups**, a luncheon, entertainment and games for the children. **St. Henry** started as a mission church of **St. Mary in Orange**. **Father Joe Berberich** celebrated the first Mass in what is now **Bridge City** in 1937. With the approval from **Bishop Christopher Byrne** and after finding donors, **Father Joe** oversaw the building of a church. The church was built in the summer and fall of 1946. **The Mission of St. Henry** held its first Mass in the new church on **September 8, 1946**. **St. Henry** was established as a parish canonically in 1948. **Father Timothy Cornin** celebrated his first Mass as resident pastor on **May 16, 1948**. Once the church was established in 1948 with a resident pastor, the growth of **St. Henry** was phenomena. The establishment of organizations began long before the church was built. The **Ladies Auxiliary** began meeting in 1938. They helped in raising money for the church to be built in their community. Many other organizations and programs flourished, including the **Knights of Columbus**, which was established in 1951 with 42 charter members. The construction of a bigger church began in 1963 to accommodate the 700 parishioners of **St. Henry**. In April 1964, the octagonal church was 8,900 square feet and the only round church constructed in the diocese. The church was remodeled in 1983. In 2008, **Hurricane Ike** came through **Bridge City** causing devastation to the church and the small town. Grateful parishioners celebrated the first **Mass** after the reconstruction in **June 2010**. **Bishop Curtis Guillory, SVD**, led the procession as part of a dedication ceremony to reopen the church to the community after being closed for more than 18 months.

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2013

Our **Southeast Texas girl**, **Kree Harrison**, came up short on national votes but she made a lot of fans along the way. **Season 12** gave her the exposure and her talent propelled her to the **final two**. Since **American Idol**, **Kree** has made a guest appearance on the **Kelly and Michael** daytime show and is suppose to appear on the **Grand Old Opry** in the future. **Kree's grandfather, Wilson Roberts**, was disappointed but

he put it best, "All you can expect in life is a break, **Kree got that**, now it's up to her what she does with it. Note: **Wilson** has since passed away. **Kree, now 33**, is a songwriter, singer and musician who makes her home in **Nashville**. **American Idol** season 21 winner is 18-year-old **Iam Tongi** from **Hawaii**.******Orange Riverfront Boardwalk and Pavilion** held a grand opening ceremony over the weekend. I give much credit to **former mayor, Brown Claybar**, who pushed that project through despite some vocal opposition.******Billie Sol Estes**, 88, died in his sleep last week. As a young man I met **Billie Sol** on a couple of occasions. By the time he was 30 years old **he was a millionaire**. His connection to **Orange County** was at age 21, in 1946, following the war. He bought **Navy houses from the U.S. government** and moved the small houses to **Pinehurst** and later sold them off. Some of those buildings were sold to **Clay Dunn** and were part of the **Midway Motel in Bridge City**. In 1953, **Billie Sol** was named one of the **"Ten Most Outstanding Young Men in America"** by the **U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce**. However, in 1962, during the **J.F.K. administration**, **L.B. J's friend, Billie Sol**, was convicted of using phony financial statements, involving non-existent fertilizer tanks. My impression of him was **he was very personable**. If you didn't know better, you would have thought he was a preacher. ******Oxbow, 15 to 1**, trained by **D. Wayne Lukas** and ridden by **50-year-old jockey, Gary Stevens**, pulled out an upset to win at the **Preakness Stakes**. The **Kentucky Derby** winner **Orb** came in fourth. Another year with **no Triple Crown winner**.****May 26 is longtime **Bridge City resident Mary Majors'** big day. **Mary and Dr. Joe**, **Bridge City's** first dentist, raised their family in **B.C.** They have moved to **College Station** a few years ago. Son, **Dr. Chuck Majors**, lives in nearby **Caldwell**. The **Majors** played an important part in the **development of Bridge City**.***A happy 60th birthday to our friend **Margaret Toal**.******Taylor Swift** won **eight of 11 Billboard awards**, **Justin Bieber** won **three**, including **"Male Artist"** and the coveted **"Milestone"** award, beating **Swift** and **Bruno Mars**. **Prince** got the **"ICON"** award.******Jude** and **Monty Turley** just returned from a seven-day cruise on **Carnival**, out of **Galveston**, making stop in **Jamaica, Grand Cayman, etc.**

24 Years Ago-1999

Louis Dugas, Jay Tanzen and Richard Turkel drove to New Orleans to argue before the entire **Fifth Federal Circuit**. Sixteen black robed judges heard their arguments and asked many questions. All three lawyers reported it was an exciting and grand experience.******Karen Jo Vance**, county clerk, gave **Dugas** a book on their return titled, **"Why you Say It."** The book contains stories behind our everyday words and phrases. **Louis says it's amazing** what he learned about simple words, like **"Shampoo"** etc. ******Congrats to Eric Eshbach**, who vaulted **18.2 1/4 feet**, making him the world's greatest high school pole vaulter. Coming in second at the State Championships was fellow **Orangefield vaulter, Jonathan Henly**, who received the silver medal with a **17.3 vault**. The **Bobcats** brought home first and second and **Eric set a world record**.******Former West Orange-Stark baseball star Bruce Aven** went three for four with one homerun to beat the **Brewers 14-3**. **Bruce is batting .372** in the major leagues. ******Bridge City Coach Les Johnson and Wanda** celebrated their **44th wedding anniversary** May 20. (Editor's note: If my addition is right, **Wanda and Les** celebrated their 68th this week. They make their home in **Bastrop**. ******Attorney Karla Rogers** has a good point when she says, **"Judges shouldn't have to run under a national party banner**. Honestly, I've never known any judge who ruled based on being **Republican or Democrat**." (Editor's note: That was 24 years ago and still is true today. Taking it a little farther, no one should be **elected or defeated in local government based on a national party**. Local candidates should be judged on qualifications, not party banner. **Party voting is a dumb way to pick the best candidate**.)

44 years ago-1979

Sue Bailey, Rob's other half, is featured in a **Texas Highways** magazine article. The story also features **Sidney Island**. **Sue** is warden of the **National Audubon Society**.******Bickham Lincoln-Mercury** holds a **midnight sale**. Sale ends at daylight. ******West Orange Mustangs** hold their **all-sports banquet**. Receiving awards are **Lyn Broussard**, volleyball; **Geneva Vontours**, track; **Retha Jones**, basketball; **Scarlet Bland**, golf; **Sheila Ryan**, tennis; **Earnest Anderson**, football; **Greg Marshall**, basketball; **Gary Withworth**, tennis; **Kevin Wolford**, baseball; **Greg Hill**, track; **Retha Jones**, Outstanding Female Athlete; **Van Barnett**, Outstanding Male.******The Bridge City baseball team** is in the playoffs against **Brenham**.******Outstanding athletes** honored at **BC**: **Pat Meeks**, baseball; **Wesley Munlin**, tennis; **Lydia Moreno**, basketball; **Tammy Poindecker**, track.******N.J. "Vic" Vicknair** has surgery.******Ladonna Higginbotham and Ricky Hollier** are to be wed May 26.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

County Judge John Gothia has something to brag about, and it's not a fish tale. He's now a **pawpaw**. **Emily Ruth Gothia** was born at 9:29 a.m. May 11 at **St. Elizabeth Hospital** in **Beaumont**. She weighed 6 pounds-10 ounces. **Glennis** is the proud grandmother. **Gothia** told commissioners court how he now has something to talk about when the other members talk about when they tell stories about their grandparents. Parents are **Hunter and Haley Gothia**.******Clint Ray** of **Orange** also became a first time grandpa with the birth of **Brewer Ray Richter**.******Of course Gothia** is busy, busy, with the big upcoming national **Bassmasters Tournament** coming back to **Orange** next week. **Gothia**, before he was an elected official, worked hard with the **Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce** to entice a major fishing tournament here. The previous ones have drawn record crowds. **The Bassmasters Tournament-Riverfest** again will be held at the **City of Orange Boat Ramp**. Lots of sponsors are lined up, including a new one not seen here before. **Christus Hospital Orange** is sponsoring

the main pavilion. That's a sign our local hospital under construction is close to being open. The new one will have a 24-7 emergency room plus a few rooms for in-patients. The county hasn't had a hospital in several years since **Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas** closed its one here..Of course **David Jones** will be busy out at **Bassmasters**. The local business owner, **Gopher Industrial**, and civic leader has been supporting the tournament here from its beginnings. Once again, he will be sponsoring the live fishing pond for the kids that will be open during set hours of the fish festival******Dow Chemical** also helps sponsor events at the festival and this past week, employees from the local plant worked along the boat ramp area picking up trash and debris. At the same time, workers from the **Port of Orange** were out in a boat towing in fallen logs and other large items that might give boaters problems navigating the waters.******The Sabine River Authority** has also contributed to help the tournament, along with future ones and the local anglers who crowd the boat ramp during good weather. **SRA** paid for the installation of a floating dock along the river bank near the launching-landing ramps. A dozen boats will be able to be tied up to the dock as they wait to use the ramps.******High school graduations** will be this week across the county. At **West Orange-Stark**, the ceremony will be held in the new event center recently completed on campus next to **Dan R. Hooks Stadium**. **Mustangs** graduate at 6 p.m. Friday. **Bridge City** will have graduation 8 p.m. Friday at the high school. **Vidor's** graduation will be Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the high school, while **Orangefield** will go to the **Montagne Center** at **Lamar University** in **Beaumont** Saturday at 1 p.m. **Little Cypress-Mauriceville High** will also be at the **Montagne Center**, but on Friday evening at 7. Graduations are not finished, but the **Bridge City Class of 2024** is already to proclaim they are seniors. The high school has begun selling reserved parking spaces to upcoming seniors, but school officials have emphasized the spaces are not to be used until after the **Class of 2023** graduates. The students will need to wait until July 19 to custom paint their reserved spaces. However, remember the school administration must approve the designs******J.W. Dalton** of **Mauriceville** organized a successful motorcycle ride, the **Second Annual 500 for Life** to emphasize how other drivers on highways and roadways need to be watchful for motorcyclists. This year, the group rode from **Cowboy Harley** in **Beaumont** to **Columbanus** in **Orange**. They also honored **Van Jordan**, who worked to start the awareness ride last year and later died of a heart attack. Speakers included **Orange County Sheriff Lane Mooney, Orange Mayor Larry Spears, and Precinct 2 Commissioner Chris Sowell**.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

A few folks celebrating their big day in the upcoming week. **May 24: Twins Joey and Rusty Williams, Chris Green and Lance Faulkner** celebrate.******May 25: Monica Stephens, Jo Lynn Harris, Judy Duncan, Sheryl Frazier**. Also **Mark Philpott**, who is also celebrating he and **Babette's** wedding anniversary. Congratulations.******May 26:** Two of our favorite gals celebrate on this date. Happy Birthday to **Jean Moreau, also Logan New and Dylan Ball**.******May 27: Keisha Tomplait, Bruce Montague and Charlene Terro** celebrate.******May 28: Debbie Guidry, Lisa Mesch, Kyle Smoke, Michael Garcia, Rebecca Brumer and Kelli Boehme**.******May 29:** Celebrating today are **Matt Bryant, Chief Sam Kitchell**.******May 30:** Today is **Memorial Day**. Happy Birthday to **Dr. Amber Dunn, Judge Rex Peveto, Brian Ousley, Clint Worthy, Kimberlea Worthy, Derek George, Nikki Barron and Nikki Fisette**. To place birthday or anniversary announcements contact us at **therecordlive.com** or **409-886-7183**.

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

At midmorning it started raining; by lunchtime, **Calvin Breaux** and **Mason Comeaux** got rained out on dere construction job. Dey ate dere lunch dem, and went to **Tee-Boy's Bar and Grill** for a few beers.

Da rain kept coming down, eight inches in all. Da guys dem, kept on drinking while da rain pour. By later afternoon, dem, **dey were boat loop-legged and talking crazy** bout dere wives being mad cause dey not home,

Comeaux blurred out, "Say **Breaux**, if I went to you house, and made love to you wife, would dat make us kin, hanh?"

"**No Comeaux**, but it sure would make us even." **Breaux** replied.

C'EST TOUT DISASTER STRUCK TWICE ON MEMORIAL DAY

May 3, 1999, 24 years ago, **Moore, Okla. was destroyed by a tornado**. On this Memorial week, when we remember our veterans killed in all wars, terror hits us again here at home. Scores were killed when **Moore was again hit by a monster tornado**, packing 200 mile per hour winds. For 40 minutes it left destruction over a mile wide. The 1999 twister was the highest recorded winds at 302 mph, killing 36 people and causing over \$1 billion in damage. Despite the winds not being as strong, the **May 20, 2013 tornado**, 10 years ago, because of its time on the ground, **left total destruction**. Many children, kindergarten to third grade age, had been in a school hallway that no longer existed. Some of those **small children were killed**. That is so sad. What a blow to those young couples just starting out in life, losing their child, maybe two, and all their possessions. **We take life for granted every day**. During war we have learned to expect death but never consider how many of our fellow citizens die yearly in natural disasters. The **people of Moore had 15 minutes** and were told everyone not underground were not likely to survive. An **EF-5 storm on the Fujita Scale** is the most powerful type of twister known to man. (Editor's note: While remembering our veterans who were lost in battle, take time to say a prayer for our fellow citizens who today are killed because of **gun violence which in 2023** is now common place.)****You will never know how much I really appreciate your loyalty to this column. Thanks for your time. Stay safe. **Take care and God bless**.

Deaths & Memorials

Doris Jane Hughes Steele, 88, Orange

Doris Jane Hughes Steele, 88, of Orange, Texas, passed away on May 19, 2023, in Orange.

Funeral services will take place at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, May 25, 2023, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange. Officiating will be Pastor Harland Strother of Cowboy Church in Orange. Burial will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Orange.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange.

Born in Houston, Texas, on February 23, 1935, she was the daughter of Grady and Millie (Gentry) Hughes. After graduating from Orangefield High School in 1953, Doris married the love of her life, Ernest Gene Steele on September 2, 1955. She dedicated her life to her family and home and worked as a domestic engineer. Doris was also employed as a florist at Bland's Florist. She was a hardworking woman who volunteered in several positions including, Court Appointed Special Advocate, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Lion's Club, American Red Cross, Orange County Sher-



Doris Steele

iff's Office, different hospitals, and Amateur Radio operator. Doris' loved ones will always treasure their memories of her and will miss her dearly.

She is preceded in death by her dad, Grady Mitchell Hughes; mom, Millie Gentry; husband, Gene Steele; brother, Wayne and Evelyn Hughes; sister, Geneva Hooker; daughter, Mary Kay Lanting; son-in-law, Fred Lanting; and great-grandson, Remington Gene Steele.

She is survived by her children, Vicki Steele King of Orangefield, Texas, and Mark Steele, Sr. and wife, Candice Conroy Steele of Orangefield; grandchildren, Chris King and wife, Risa, Jane Anne Ayarza and husband, Chuck, J.B. Lanting and wife, Victoria, Dillin Lanting and wife, Danielle, Marke Steele, Jr. and wife, Candice, Jessica Tant and husband, Josh, and Blake Nicole Steele; over 20 great-grandchildren; and her brother, Curtis Hughes and wife, Lois.

Serving as pallbearers will be J.B. Lanting, Mark Steele, Jr., Dillin Lanting, Blaze King, Jace Nunnally, and Josh Tant. Honorary pallbearers are Chris King, Gage King, Chuck Ayarza.



BCHS nursing students get certifications

All nine of Bridge City High School's students in the certified nursing assistants program passed their certification tests recently. The students also toured the Lamar University Nursing School in Beaumont. The CNA program operates under the school's CTE, Career Technical Education program. The Bridge City ISD now has a new CTE center under construction at the high school.

BC Library hosts support group for Widow/Widowers

The Bridge City Public Library will continue its Widows/Widowers group after the success of its opening meeting. The group's purpose is to provide an opportunity for those who often lead lonely lives after the death of a spouse to have an outlet to share with others in the same situation. It is not a dating group but a place to gather, share with others and to play games as entertainment. Snacks and coffee will be provided.

We do require participants to call the library the Monday before the Friday of the meeting so that we can know how many to plan for.

Planned meetings will be from 10 am to noon on the following Fridays, May 5, May 19, June 2, June 16 and July 7 and July 21. If you have any questions, call the library at 409-735-4242. We look forward to getting to know you.

BC teacher select for state fellowship

Staff Report For The Record

Hannah Landry, Bridge City High School teacher, has been selected to join the 2023-2024 Texas Education Agency Teacher Leadership Fellowship. This is a prestigious two-year fellowship program designed to strengthen teacher leadership pathways at the state-level and increase opportunities for teachers to shape the profession.

Mrs. Landry was chosen from a highly competitive



Landry

pool of applicants based on her demonstrated excellence in teaching, leadership skills, and passion for improving education. As a Teacher Leadership Fellow, Hannah will join a cohort of outstanding educators from across the state to collaborate, learn, and share ideas on how to elevate the teaching profession.

"We are incredibly proud of Mrs. Landry for being selected for this prestigious fellowship," said Superintendent, Dr. Mike Kelly. "This is a testament to her hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence in education."

We look forward to seeing the impact she will make as a Teacher Leadership Fellow and the positive changes she will bring back to Bridge City High School and our district."



The Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has announced that Precinct 3 Constable Brad Frye has been named May Employee of the Month. Pictured are: Rani Dillow, Constable Brad Frye and Stephanie Roberts

Accepting New Patients

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- Angiojet
- Non-Invasive Cardiology
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- TEE (Transesophageal Echocardiogram)
- 24-Holter Monitoring
- Stress Testing and Stress Echocardiography
- Peripheral Vascular Interventions and Stents, Renal, Iliac, Femoral, Popliteal, Mesenteric, Subclavian
- Pacemaker Implantation & Services
- Preventive Cardiology
- Tilt Table Testing
- Nuclear Cardiology
- Inferior Vena Cava Filter
- Biventricular Pacemaker
- AICD (Automatic Implantable Pacemaker Defibrillator)



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F.A.C.C.
Board Certified in Cardiovascular Medicine, Echocardiography, & Internal Medicine, Specialized in Interventional Cardiology



Dia A. Abochamh, M.D.
Board Certified in Cardiovascular Medicine, Specialized in Interventional Cardiology & Electrophysiology



Mohammed A. Islam, M.D.
F.A.C.C.
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THE RECORD

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- Just \$10 for a 30 word ad in both papers and on the web
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Your ads published in both newspapers, the County Record & the Penny Record, plus on our web site @ TheRecordLive.com

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Penny Record & County Record Offices now located at:
333 West Roundbunch, Bridge City, 77611
NOTE: Offices closed on Wednesday

APPLIANCES

HARRY'S APPLIANCES - Used appliances starting at \$99.95, 302 10th. St. (10th. & main) Orange. We also buy used appliances. Call or come by 409-886-4111.

RV FOR RENT

RV for Rent in Bridge City, located in quiet neighborhood. \$750, all bills paid. Please call 409-272-0792

FOR RENT

Rental: now taking applications for very nice 3 BR, 2 Bath home Manufactured Home w/ porch, carport and wheelchair ramp. Must be 55 year of age or older, 55 and up community \$900 month. Includes garbage pickup and lawn maintenance. Please call 409-504-9296

GARAGE SALE

Garage Sale this Sat., May 27 from 8 am to until at 4407 Sequoia Drive in Cypresswood Village, Orange. Home decor, clothes, shoes, Queen bed comforter, vintage lamp and lots more.

Garage Sale this Fri., May 26 and Sat., May 27 from 8 am to 4 pm at 210 North Clover in Bridge City, 77611. Lots of everything. Tires, all sizes. Table & chair, coffee table, shelf w/ glass door, equipment and 2 large speakers.

Yard sale Saturday 5/27/23 starts at 8:am end at 2:pm 105 Davis ave. West Orange 2 family sale one has antique and collectible glassware and collectible old magazines 1 has Old rod iron sewing machine base designer purses very nice shoes some never worn women's clothes different sizes lots of house hold items too much to mention

American Legion Post 49
409-886-1241
Hall Rental

DOGS FOR SALE

Tiny poodle pup will be only 3-4 pounds fully grown. 1 white male, adorable with CKC papers, all shots, potty trained \$1500. Email me or call for pics at dkp-too@aol.com or 409-504-8879.

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Legal Notice

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's On-Premise Permit, Application ID 204148 by Robert R. Enterprises Incorporated dba Robert's Meat Market & Steakhouse, to be located at 3720 W. Park Avenue STE B, Pinehurst, United States, Orange 77630. Owners of said corporation are Roberto Ramirez and Rebecca Ramirez, Owners.

NOTICE: Vehicle stored at Gilbeaux's Towing and Transport Inc. 058449 VSF 16527 Hwy 62 S. Orange, TX 77630 PH (409) 886-0007

Total charges cannot be computed until the vehicle is claimed, storage charges will accrue daily until the vehicle is released. Must demonstrate proof of ownership and pay current charges to claim vehicle! www.tdlr.texas.gov

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION (OTHER) - COPUBWD The State of Texas

TO: The Unknown Heirs at Law of Chase Miller, Deceased

Respondent, NOTICE

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

In Addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org.

The petition of Freedom Mortgage Corporation, Petitioner, was filed in the 128th District Court of Orange County, Texas on 26th day of April, 2023, against Unknown Heirs of Chase Miller, Respondent, numbered 230118-C. The suit request:

This proceeding concerns the foreclosure of a lien on the following real property and improvements commonly known as 2948 El, St, Orange, TX, 77632, and more particularly described as LOT NO. ONE HUNDRED SEVEN (107), OF RIDGECREST ADDITION NO. 2, A SUBDIVISION IN ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT OF RECORD IN VOLUME 5, PAGE 87, MAP RECORDS OF ORANGE COUNTY, TEXAS.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment which will be binding on you.

ISSUED AND GIVEN under my hand and the seal of said Court at Orange, Texas this MAY 11th, 2023.

ANNE REED, District Clerk
Orange County, Texas
By: *Anne Reed*

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of MARY JO STOKES, Deceased, were issued on MAY 23, 2023, in Cause No. P19592, pending in the County Court at Law of Trinity County, Texas, to: TERESA FOLTZ.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o:
Barron Law Office
P.O. Box 279
Orange, TX
77631-0279

Dated the 23rd day of May, 2023.

George B. Barron
George B. Barron
Attorney for Administratrix
State Bar No.: 01817500
P.O. Box 279
Orange, TX
77631-0279
Email: george@barronlawoffice.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DEWIE LONGMIRE, Deceased, were issued on the 16th day of MAY, 2023, in Cause No. P19688, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, Probate Division to: DOUGLAS EDWARD LONGMIRE.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Douglas Edward Longmire
1025 Vivian St
Bridge City, TX 77611

DATED the 16th day of May, 2023.

Eric Peveto
Eric Peveto
Attorney for:
Douglas Edward Longmire
State Bar No.: 24004859
118 Border Street
Orange, TX 77630
Phone: (409)883-0220
Email: emily@pevetolaw-firm.com

NOTICE OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

BID REQUEST: "Additional Limestone Parking Areas"

OWNER: Orange County Navigation and Port District dba Port of Orange

Location: Port of Orange Administration Building
1201 Childers Road
Orange, Texas 77630

Bid Deadline: June 8th, 2023 at 2:00PM Local Time
Bid Opening: June 8th, 2023 at 2:05PM Local Time

Location: Port of Orange Administration Building - Boardroom
1201 Childers Road
Orange, Texas 77630

SEALED BIDS in duplicate, clearly marked and addressed to Port of Orange, "Attn: Stephen LeBlanc, Additional Limestone Parking Areas", Orange County Navigation and Port District (the "Owner"), will be received at the Port of Orange Administration Office, 1201 Childers Road, Orange, Texas, 77630 until the date and time set above; and then publicly opened and read aloud in the Port of Orange Administration Office Boardroom, 1st Floor, for "Additional Limestone Parking Areas". Bids received after 2:00PM local time will be returned unopened. Project is located in Orange County, Texas at 905 Pier Road.

Bid Packets may be obtained at the Orange County Navigation and Port District, 1201 Childers Road, Orange, Texas 77630.

Strip existing vegetation, scarify and compact subgrade, furnish and install geotextile fabric, supply and install minimum of 8" compacted limestone base for approximately 47,240 square-feet of new parking areas per the Bid Package issued by the Port of Orange.

All prime contractors are encouraged to visit the site to inspect all locations and conditions prior to bid date. Please contact Stephen LeBlanc to arrange a site visit.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Certified or Cashier's Check, payable without recourse to the order of the Orange County Navigation and Port District, or a Bid Bond for at least five percent (5%), of the total amount bid, and the bank or bonding company certifying the same shall be liable therefore to the Orange County Navigation and Port District in the event such successful bidder shall fail or refuse to enter into proper contract therefore or shall fail or refuse to furnish bonds therefore as required by law and as hereafter mentioned within ten (10) days after receipt of NOTICE OF AWARD. Bid surety of all except the three (3) lowest responsible Bidders will be returned when award is made; when the contract is executed, the surety of the two (2) remaining unsuccessful Bidders will be returned; that of the successful Bidder will be returned when formal contract, bonds and insurance are approved, and work has commenced within the time specified.

The successful bidder must furnish PERFORMANCE and PAYMENT BONDS on the forms furnished with the bid documents, in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total contract price. All insurance companies issuing PERFORMANCE and PAYMENT BONDS and any reinsurance companies utilized by such insurance companies, in order to issue PERFORMANCE and PAYMENT BONDS to the Owner, shall have at least an "A" rating according to the Best's Key Guide and must be authorized to transact business in Texas. Additionally, such insurance companies shall be on the current list of "Companies Holding Certificates of Authority as Acceptable Sureties on Federal Bonds and as Acceptable Reinsuring Companies" as published in Circulars 570 (as amended) by the Audit Staff, Bureau of Government Financial Operations and United States Treasury Department.

Bidder is hereby advised that the work shall be subject to equal employment opportunity requirements, local prevailing wage rates, and Executive Order No.11246 as amended. In conformance with applicable statutes, the general prevailing wage rates in the locality in which the work is to be performed have been ascertained, and such rates shall be minimum paid for labor employed upon this project.

In accordance with Texas State law, including Local Government Code Chapter 176, each BIDDER MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT WITH THEIR BID A COPY OF THE VENDOR'S CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE CONTAINED IN THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

The Owner is a sales tax-exempt governmental entity. A sales tax exemption notice will be issued to the Contractor when the contract is awarded in order that that he does not have to pay sales taxes on labor and/or materials utilized in or consumed in connection with the Owner's project.

The Contractor performing this contract must issue to his suppliers an exemption certificate in lieu of the tax, said exemption certificate complying with all applicable State Comptroller's rulings along with a copy of the sales tax exemption notice issued to him by the Owner.

The Orange County Navigation and Port District reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities in bidding to the fullest extent permitted by law. In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating the prices in any bid, the OWNER reserves the right to consider and accept the most advantageous construction thereof, or to reject the bid.

Orange County Navigation and Port District

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HELP WANTED

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Second Annual 500 For Life Held in Orange

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

The second annual "500 For Life" motorcycle rally was held Saturday, May 20, for local motorcycle enthusiasts. Over fifty motorcyclists rode together from Beaumont to Orange to promote safety and to make drivers of other vehicles more aware of motorcycles on the road.

The rally started at the Cowboy Harley Davidson dealership on Interstate 10 in Beaumont escorted by motorcycle riding police officers. All together 55 motorcycles arrived at the Columbanus Motor Sports center in Orange at shortly after 11 o'clock Saturday morning.

The reason for "500 For Life" is to raise awareness of the vulnerability of motorcycle riders to vehicular traffic on the highways and on city streets. The original idea for the event came over a year ago from Van Jordan the then director of the local chapter of Harley Owners Group (HOG) after his nephew Corey Stinnett was killed on a motorcycle when a driver of another vehicle said they did not see him resulting in the fatal collision.

Van Jordan passed away last year from a heart attack but his desire to make motorists more aware of



Orange Mayor Larry Spears, Jr. officially declared this past Saturday as 500 For Life Day in the City of Orange.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

riders on motorcycles has been carried on by the new director of the local HOG chapter J. W. Dalton. "This is serious what we're doing here today. We're tired of being killed and the excuse is 'I just didn't see them officer'. That has to stop, that mindset has to stop," Dalton expressed.

It was a year ago that Nicole Wantuck known by her friends as "Sweet Pea" lost her husband Bill when he was killed on his motorcycle riding to work. Nicole pleaded, "Making sure motorists are aware of us will save another wife having to bury her husband, another son from having no father, and

grandchildren from not having their papa. We must do something.

Whatever the cost it needs to be taken care of so that nobody has to stand right

here and do what I did this week and go to a cross because that's where my husband died."

The organizers of "500 For Life" invited several guest speakers to the Columbanus Motor Sports for the rally. Among those in attendance were Orange County Sheriff Lane Mooney, Orange County Commissioner Chris Sowell, Jefferson County District Attorney Keith Giblin, and Mayor Larry Spears, Jr. of the City of Orange.

Sheriff Mooney recited the sad statistics from the Texas Department of Public Safety that 562 motorcycle deaths accounted for fourteen percent of highway fatalities in Texas last year. The sheriff added that motorcyclists were twenty-eight times more likely to be killed in a traffic crash than occupants

in a motor vehicle.

Mooney shared the seven tips from the Texas Department of Transportation for drivers of vehicles to practice to be more aware of motorcycles:

- Stay alert. Give driving your full attention. Even a momentary distraction, such as answering a phone call or changing the radio station, can have deadly consequences.

- Pay special attention at intersections. One-third of all motorcycle fatalities happen at roadway intersections.

- Take extra care when making a left turn. Always assume motorcycles are closer than they appear and avoid turning in front of an oncoming motorcycle.

- Look twice when

500 FOR LIFE Page 3B



Orangefield senior Morgan Sampson pitched well in keeping the Bobcats close in the second game with Central Heights.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Orangefield drops two to Blue Devils

DAN PERRINE
For The Record

Another successful baseball season came to an end for the Orangefield Bobcats on Saturday, May 20. The Bobcats lost their second game to the Central Heights Blue Devils and were eliminated from the Class 3A state baseball playoffs.

Orangefield won the district championship going undefeated in fourteen games. The Bobcats advanced to the third round of the post season with impressive series sweeps over Pollok Central and Wallis Brazos in the bi-district and area rounds of the playoffs.

Game one of the series between Orangefield and Central Heights was played Thursday, May 18, in Jasper. The two teams came into the series with almost identical records the Bobcats sporting a 27-4 record while the Blue Devils were just as impressive at 28-4 for their season.

Orangefield scored three runs in their first at

bat taking advantage of two Blue Devil errors. Kane Smith started the rally when his fly to left field was misplayed allowing him to reach second base.

Walks to Kyle Michael and Rustin Traxler loaded the bases with Bobcats with two outs. A wild pitch scored Smith with the first run, and an error on a ground ball hit by Jason Bodin scored Michael and courtesy runner Cameron Dearing for a 3-0 Orangefield lead.

Things were looking pretty good until the Blue Devils came to bat in the bottom of the first. The first five hitters all reached base against Bobcat pitching ace Bodin with Ashton Wagner and Luke Taylor both driving in two runs to put Central Heights on top 4-3 after one inning.

Bodin walked the lead-off batter Brady Owen to start the bottom of the second and was moved to left field. His replacement on the mound was Brycen Tait.

ORANGEFIELD Page 3B

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Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

This week's Texas Gulf Coast Fishing Reports was compiled by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

The Lakes

• Sabine Lake

GOOD. 78 degrees. Shrimp are gradually moving out of the marshes attracting the trout. Limits of slot trout in the points in the bayous with live shrimp under a popping cork, or long drifts in incoming tides over shell with morning glory chartreuse tails with quarter ounce jig heads. North Levee wall is on fire for limits of trout using topwaters early in the morning, switching midday to live shrimp under a popping cork, swimbaits and crankbaits. Jack crevalle are in the jetties. Channel rock piles and shell flats are good for trout using live shrimp under a popping cork. Channel holding nice flounder staging up on rock piles in outgoing tides quarter ounce jig head tipped with shrimp. Limits of redfish in Bessie Heights Marsh on live mullet and free lining live shrimp. Sheepshead and drum are moving to deeper water in the marsh as the water temperature increases. Report by Captain Randy Foreman, Captain Randy's Guide Service Sabine Lake.

• Bolivar

GOOD. 74 degrees. The surf is starting to hold some pompano, small sharks and the occasional redfish. The gulf side of the North Jetty is holding sheepshead and trout against the rocks, look for bait up close to rocks. Channel side holding some nice trout and big redfish on the bottom. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• Trinity Bay

SLOW. 82 degrees. There has been a push of freshwater from the Trinity River and San Jacinto River. Speckled trout being caught near Double Bayou to Smith Point. The upper northwest corner of the bay is holding speckled trout and black drum, along with some redfish. Best action is on live shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston



The Record's Capt. Chuck Uzzle displays a nice Sabine Lake redfish.

Bay Charter Fishing

• East Galveston Bay

FAIR. 82 degrees. Waders fairing well on topwater and soft plastic lures, for speckled trout up to six pounds. Open bay reefs should be good on live shrimp under popping corks and soft plastics, as long as the winds allow. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter. Surface water temperatures are 76 degrees, and the water clarity is fantastic in most places for East Galveston Bay. Marsh Point and further east the water clarity decreases. Winds have been south/southeast at 14-27 mph, for the most part with higher gusts, limiting the areas we have been able to target effectively. There has been good tide movement and good numbers of baitfish with predator fish close by. Black drum, redfish and trout action are good on live shrimp under a popping cork with an 18 inch leader or artificial lures in 3-4 feet of water where fish are feeding over shell. Some topwater action for speckled trout, but the best bite was on ¼ ounce jig head

with a paddle tail. Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Services, LLC. Yates Bayou and Siever's Cut are holding redfish against grass line on popping cork and shrimp. Hanna's is great early on the same or twitching artificial. Look for birds and slicks, and for bait moving. Pepper Grove Cove to Moody's Pass holding fish. Smith Point to Moody National Wildlife. Redfish look for schools and birds using pearl, chartreuse, big papa pure [earl, and strawberry lures. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• Galveston Bay

FAIR. 84 degrees. Plenty of fish in the area around Eagle Point. Anglers are doing well on black drum, speckled trout, and the occasional redfish. Water clarity is decent despite all the rain, best bite on live shrimp but soft plastics producing some speckled trout. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. The gulf side of the South Jetty is holding trout, sheepshead and redfish close to rocks using free-lined

shrimp, or Carolina rigged float with shrimp, or chatterweight and croaker. Channel side holding trout close to rocks popping cork with live shrimp. 61st Pier has some bull redfish with a few jack crevalle mixed in on spoons as well as bait. The causeway Pelican Island bridge are holding redfish. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• West Galveston Bay

GOOD. 82 degrees. Causeway bridge and area east of the causeway to the Texas City Dike are good for mixed catches of redfish, black drum, and speckled trout using live shrimp. Open bay reefs should be good for anglers using live croakers as bait. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. Greens Lake holding redfish against grass lines and by sandy shores early. ICW is holding fish through Greens Cut and Carancahua Cut. Mecom Reef will have fish on it early up by rocks with artificial or live bait free-line or under cork. You'll need to find protected waters with bait moving around as the winds pick up. Fish are under birds around confederate and Carancahua Reefs. Ease in on the birds for fish will spook easily. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• Houston

FAIR. Water stained; 68-72 degrees; 1.25 feet above pool. Fishing patterns are holding steady. Catfish are biting in 15-20 feet of water on shad. Crappie are good in 8-16 feet of water in open water and on brush piles using black and chartreuse or blue and white jigs off the bottom. Bass have pushed out to 6-10 feet of water using chatterbaits, or Texas rigged worms. White bass are good under the lights at night with rattletails and double rigged jigs. Report by Jason Machala, JM Fishing.

• Toledo Bend Fishing Report

GOOD. Water stained; 68-72 degrees; 0.46 feet below pool. The water level is 172.48 with both generators running 24 hours. Water temperature at the dam is 68 degrees. North of the three-mile Pendleton bridge, temperatures have been running 68-72 degrees. Zoom speed craws and creature baits rigged Texas style and a u-tail swimming worm in all white and white with a dipped chartreuse tail have been producing more bass in flooded timber and brush. Some bigger bass have been caught on senkos and flukes in black/blue flake, watermelon red, black/red flake and motor oil colors rigged wacky or Texas style. The spinnerbait bite has been solid this week. Key colors are white/chartreuse, chartreuse/blue, with black/yellow-colored skirts. The frog bite has been good on popping frogs and hollow body frogs at first light and late in the evenings over vegetation. Flyrodders are catching quality bass over vegetation using 8 and 10 weight fly rods. Top flies this week have been a weighted spoon fly black with red glitter, a Stealth Goober, and shad imitation topwater popper fly. The crappie, white bass, yellow bass, catfish and bluegill bite has moved offshore in 15-28 feet of water in the brush piles and creek ledges with standing timber using Wager jigs #1 ghost minnow, #46 blue grass, #3 monkey milk and minnows. Remember, it is always better to play it safe by telling a loved one or friend the area you will be fishing, how many people are in your party and the expected return time. With increasing fisherman and boaters enjoying the lake, just remember your boat etiquette. Good luck and keep casting forward! Report from Master Captain Steve "Scooby" Stubbe, Mudfish Adventures LLC, Orvis Endorsed Fly Fishing Guide, and Mudfish Custom Rod Shop.

• Sam Rayburn Fishing Report

GOOD. Water stained; 77 degrees; 1.07 feet above pool. Bass are slow with some males still guarding fry. Bass can be caught flipping crankbaits, jigs and soft plastics into buck brush and timber, and the grass lines in 6-12 feet of water. Some fish can be found on secondary points and in 25 feet of water with crankbaits, Carolina or Texas rigged worms. Crappie on brush piles biting minnows and jigs, some fish still spawning shallow. Catfish are fair on the points in creek channels. Sand bass are schooling off main lake points. A ton of bluegills on brush piles. Report by Captain Lynn Atkinson,

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500 For Life rally From Page 1B

changing lanes. Check mirrors, check blind spots, and always use turn signals.

- Give motorcyclists room when passing them. Move over to the passing lane and don't crowd the motorcyclist's full lane.

- Stay back. If you're behind a motorcycle, always maintain a safe following distance. When a motorcyclist downshifts, it can catch drivers

off guard since there are no brake lights to signal reduced speed.

- Slow down. Obey posted speed limits and drive according to conditions.

Jefferson County District Attorney Keith Giblin spoke how courts need to be more stringent on motorists involved in fatal motorcycle crashes which met with strong approval from the motorcyclists attending the rally. "We have to hold people accountable. If you run over somebody and kill them you need to be held accountable. I do believe there's no such thing as just an accident," Dalton responded.

One measure to improve the safety for motorcyclists might be stronger laws especially prohibiting the use of cell phones by motorists. Dalton insisted, "When we talk



The 500 For Life was the idea of Van Jordan and the event Saturday was done in his memory after he passed away last year from a heart attack. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

about motorcycle safety we have to have people that can help us push the buttons all the way around to get the legislation changed. We deserve to be able to get out on our motorcycles and ride safe without people running over us."

Education is another important step to make motorist more aware of the motorcycles on the road since most driver education courses are now done online and not with

actual driving instructors. "How are children going to learn if their mother and father have never been taught about motorcycle safety. It's a big problem, Dalton informed.

Mayor Spears said he officially declared Saturday, May 20, as "500 For Life Day" in the City of Orange. Spears promised, "I also want to recognize Mr. Van Jordan by giving him his very own day in the City of Orange with a proclamation. We will



The 500 For Life motorcycle rally had 55 participants ride from Beaumont to Orange to help promote traffic safety and make drivers of vehicles more aware of motorcycles on the road. RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

work on that so that we can bring the entire family into a council meeting to honor him and say thank you."

The "500 For Life" was sponsored by the Cowboy Harley Davidson dealership in Beaumont and the Columbanus Motor Sports center in Orange. Dennis Sparks the general manager of Columbanus said they will be shortly going to a name change of Orange Power Sports USA, but will continue to handle all the brands that are currently so popular at the dealership.

The goal is to expand "500 For Life" and actually achieve having 500 motorcyclists participating each year. This year's event was

done during National Motorcycle Awareness Month but there were several other activities that coincided which prevented many local motor bikers from participating the day it was held. The date may be changed to the first weekend in May next year.

Dalton ended by encouraging all motorcyclists to come join them

for next year's rally. "We are one family. I don't care what brand of motorcycle you ride. If you're on two wheels or three wheels you're family. Come go with us and be part of this thing because we want this "500 For Life" to go. We want Van Jordan's legacy to move forward," Dalton concluded.

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Orangefield From Page 1B

Owen scored on a two out hit by Mitchell Ashley to give the Blue Devils a two-run lead. Another run scored in the third to make the score 6-3 in favor of Central Heights.

In the top of the fourth the Bobcats responded as Caleb Fregia hit a leadoff triple to centerfield followed by walks to Matthew Johnson and Adam Tran to load the bases. Smith hit a sacrifice fly to left to cut the Blue Devil lead to two runs.

Logan Cheek singled to reload the bases for Orangefield. A wild pitch brought Johnson home with the second run of the inning and Michael had a rbi ground out that scored Tran to tie the game 6-6 through three and half innings.

The Blue Devils quickly retook the lead in the bottom of the fourth with three runs. Four more runs came across for them in the fifth to bring the eventual final score to 13-6 as Central Heights went up one to nothing in the series.

After a day off the second game of the series was played on Saturday, May 20, in Jasper. Orangefield was the designated home team for that game.

In contrast to the first game when nineteen runs were scored between the two teams the second game was a pitchers' duel. The contest remained scoreless through the first five innings.

Morgan Sampson started for Orangefield and initially was very strong. Sampson only walked two while striking out four in the first three innings.

Bobcat Coach Tim Erickson was extremely proud of the effort by Sampson a senior. "That's a guy who wasn't even going to play baseball this year because of knee surgery. Morgan had not picked up a baseball since February of last year due to some elbow issues, started working his way back, and he just goes out competing his butt off today," Erickson praised.

The Blue Devils loaded the bases after two were out in the fourth on their first two hits and a walk. Sampson calmed the threat with his fifth strikeout to retire the side.

A leadoff walk to Jason Bodin in the bottom of the fifth gave the Bobcats a chance to break the tie. Caleb Fregia sacrificed Bodin to second but Jason was thrown out trying to

steal third and a ground out ended the inning with no runs across the plate for Orangefield.

Central Heights changed the score in the sixth as Mitchell Ashley opened the frame with a single to left. A comebacker to Sampson by the next batter looked like it might be a double play, but Sampson threw low to second base for an error and both runners were safe.

A shallow fly ball dropped into right field for a single to load the bases for the Blue Devils. Luke Taylor singled to center driving in the first two runs of the game. A Bob-

ORANGEFIELD Page 4B

Orange County Judge John Gothia

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Orangefield Lady Bobcats close fantastic season

DAN PERRINE
FOR THE RECORD

The Orangefield Lady Bobcats had their outstanding season come to an end Friday, May 19, in Navasota. The Lady Bobcats lost in a one game playoff with the Class 3A top ranked Grandview Lady Zebras to be eliminated from the state UIL playoffs after reaching the fourth round of the post season for the first time in the school's softball history.

Orangefield played even with Grandview for four innings during a scoreless tie. The Lady Zebras got two late homeruns in the fifth and sixth innings to win the game 5-0 and advance to the regional finals next week.

As she has all season Abigail Curphey gave the Lady Bobcats strong pitching to keep things even early. Curphey threw a complete game going six innings surrendering nine hits of which five came in the sixth inning when Grandview scored four of its runs. Abigail struck out five Lady Zebras and walked none.

The difference in the game was freshman phenom Madi Doty of Grandview who pitched the first six innings allowing just one ball to be hit out of the infield while striking out six Lady Bobcats. Doty also went three for three with her bat which included a homerun as she accounted for three of the five Lady Zebra runs.

The Lady Bobcats were actually the first to threaten to score getting a runner to second base in both the first and third innings. Hallee Becker walked to open the game and was sacrificed to second by Aubree Beck. Unfortunately, Becker rounded second base a little too far causing the alert Grandview first baseman Isabella Jeter to throw to second and Hallee was tagged out diving back to the bag to thwart the chance to score for Orangefield.

In the third inning Rylee Dougay was hit by a pitch with one out. Alysen Vincent sacrificed Dougay to second but she was stranded there when Doty got a strike out to end the top half of the inning.



Pitcher Abigail Curphey, shortstop Aubree Beck, and left fielder Paris Becker all return next year for Orangefield to help make the Lady Bobcats a strong team again in 2024.
RECORD PHOTO: Dan Perrine

Doty led off the bottom of the third with a single to left off Curphey to become the first Lady Zebra base runner. Charlee Sanches charged a dribbler to third to get a force out on Doty at second base before Curphey registered her fourth strikeout to that point, and Greenlea Oldham made an unassisted put out at first to snuff out any chance for Grandview.

Curphey was masterful and maybe a little lucky in the fourth inning when the Lady Zebras' first two hitters singled. The threat became even bigger when both runners moved up a base after a pitch went to the backstop.

Grandview's Jeter popped out to Vincent behind first base for the first out. Kylie Grafa hit a fly to left caught by Paris Becker for the second out on which the runner at third appeared to leave early and then retreated back to third leaving her with no chance to challenge Paris' arm.

The next Lady Zebra Olivia Bauerschlag slapped a sinking liner to right that had runs scoring base hit written all over it. Hallee Becker erased that result running in and diving head first to make a sensational catch that had the fans dressed in Orange standing and clapping with appreciation for Hallee helping keep the score tied 0-0 after four.

Leading off the bottom of the fifth for Grandview was Doty who smashed a pitch to left center that went over the fence and clanged off the scoreboard for a homerun. The Lady Zebras took a 1-0 lead.

The biggest threat of the game for Orangefield came in the next half inning. With two outs in the sixth Hallee Becker laid down a bunt towards third and beat it out for the first Lady Bobcat hit of the contest.

Beck batted next ripping a hard grounder that handcuffed the Grandview shortstop for another hit and caromed away allowing Becker to race to third and Aubree to reach second base on the throw to try to nip Hallee. Harleigh Rawls then walked to load the bases with Lady Bobcats.

That brought up Sanches who had been robbed of a hit back in the fourth on a diving stop of her grounder by Lady Zebra second baseman Kierstyn Moore. Sanches bounced another grounder to the right side but not as difficult this time and Moore converted the play into the third out ending the potential Lady Bobcat rally.

Moore started the bottom half of the sixth for Grandview with a single. Dougay made an amazing play in centerfield on the next hitter when she fell down but kept her concentration and eye on the ball to make the catch while practically lying on the ground.

There was no catching the next ball hit as Jeter homered over the centerfield fence. Grandview grabbed a 3-0 lead.

The Lady Zebras would add two more runs with two outs. Doty was in the middle of the rally doubling home the first run and scoring the second to give Grandview a five-run ad-

vantage.

Caydin Blackmon relieved Doty in the circle for the seventh inning. The senior Lady Zebra pitcher retired the Lady Bobcats in order to secure the victory for Grandview.

Coach Rebekah Ragsdale of Orangefield reflected back on how close the game really was. Ragsdale commented, "I almost don't even feel like the score was indicative of how close it was. Doty was the MVP of the game, but we knew

coming in that their pitching was going to be tough and we've known all year our offense was where we were going to struggle. We've already talked about what we're going to be doing to improve that in the offseason. For us to be going into the fifth inning still zero, zero my sister Coach Nash and I were going like we're about to do this. I'm just proud of the Lady Bobcats' effort, and I never felt like they got rattled. I never felt like they felt overpow-

ered against a team as strong as Grandview."

The coach called this season awesome for her Lady Bobcats. "From day one I know I've said it a million times to this point the Lady Bobcats' growth has been exponential and only big things are to come from here. This is the standard now. We know what it looks like, we know what it feels like, now in the future we'll be ready, and we'll be prepared," Ragsdale concluded.

Orangefield From Page 3B

cat error on a possible inning ending double play grounder resulted in a third run coming in for a 3-0 Central Heights lead.

Orangefield threatened in the bottom of the sixth when Kane Smith and Logan Cheek both walked. Blue Devil starter Jack Christensen struck out the always dangerous Kyle Michael and got Sampson to ground out to short to quiet the Bobcat faithful.

Bodin relieved Sampson in the sixth and gave up a run in the top of the seventh. Christensen for the Blue Devils was taken out after a leadoff single by Rusten Traxler in the bot-

tom of the seventh having allowed only three hits and three walks with three strikeouts. Nick West the new pitcher retired the three Bobcat batters he faced in the seventh to secure the series clinching 4-0 victory for Central Heights.

Coach Erickson reflected on the tough series with a very good Central Heights team. Erickson replied, "We knew it was going to be tough. This is a matchup that everybody was looking forward to, but I hate that it happened in round three I think it should have been played maybe two rounds later. We ran into a really

good team, and the Blue Devils played out of their minds in the first game, but we showed up and competed today just didn't get the breaks in this one as things didn't fall our way in the second game."

The Orangefield Bobcats under Erickson have a winning program that the coach believes will continue. "We're disappointed with the third round loss, and I think that's a good thing for the program moving forward. We expect to be here, we're excited to be here. The expectations get a little bit bigger each year and that's a good thing," Erickson concluded.

Entertainment: Summer concert scene

**TOMMY MANN JR.
FOR THE RECORD**

Several big shows have been announced in the past week to help keep the summer months red hot. New shows announced recently include Rick Springfield, Martina McBride, Greta Van Fleet, LL Cool J, and more. Check out the schedule below for upcoming shows and see the full listing of events online at www.therecordlive.com



Rock star Rick Springfield returns to Southwest Louisiana this summer with the "I Want My 80s Tour" on Saturday, Aug. 19 at L'Auberge Casino Resort in Lake Charles. Tickets go on sale this Friday at all Ticketmaster outlets and special guests include The Hooters, Paul Young and Tommy Tutone.
RECORD PHOTO: Tommy Mann Jr.

- **May 26**
Morgan Wallen, Hardy Ernest, Bailey Zimmerman, Minute Maide Park, Houston, The Sisters of Mercy, Bayou Music Center, Houston
- **May 27**
Morris Day and The Time, Zapp Band, Rose Royce, Confunkshun, Ohio Players, Atlantic Starr, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 3**
Janet Jackson, Ludacris, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 9**
Duran Duran, Nile Rodgers and Chic, Bastille, Cyn-

- thia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 10**
Jo'El Sonnier, The Oaks Event Center, Vidor Koe Wetzell, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 15**
Liliac, Rise Rooftop,

- Houston
- **June 16**
Thomas Rhett, Cole Swindell, Nate Smith, CajunDome, Lafayette, La.
- **June 23**
Pixies, Franz Ferdinand, Bully, Bayou Music Center, Houston
- **June 27**

- Fall Out Boy, Bring Me the Horizon, Royal and The Serpent, Daisy Grenade, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **June 28**
Bryan Adams, Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land

- **June 30**
Matchbox Twenty, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **July 8**
Blink-182, Turnstile, Toyota Center, Houston
- **July 22**
Shania Twain, Mickey Guyton, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **July 23**
Nickelback, Brantley Gilbert, John Ross, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **July 27**
Disturbed, Breaking Benjamin, Bush, Jinjer, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands, Young the Giant, 713 Music Hall, Houston
- **July 30**
ZZ Top, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Uncle Kracker, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Aug. 3**
Big Time Rush, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Aug. 4**
Thomas Rhett, Toyota Center, Houston
- **Aug. 12**
Foreigner, Loverboy, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Aug. 14**

- REO Speedwagon, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land
- **Aug. 20**
Beck, Phoenix, Weyes Blood, Sir Chloe, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands,
- **Sept. 2**
Lainey Wilson, Golden Nugget Casino, Lake Charles, La., Ghost, Amon Amarth, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Sept. 7**
Pentatonix, Lauren Alaina, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Sept. 13**
Madonna, Toyota Center, Houston
- **Sept. 22**
elly Roll, Three 6 Mafia, Struggle Jennings, Josh Adam Meyers, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, The Woodlands
- **Sept. 23**
Beyonce, NRG Stadium, Houston
- **Sept. 24**
Beyonce, NRG Stadium, Houston
- **Sept. 28**
Guns N' Roses, Minute Maid Park, Houston
- **Oct. 21**
Kansas, Smart Financial Center, Sugar Land

Beat the heat with summer variety

**OUTDOORS
Capt. Chuck Uzzle
For The Record**



Chuck Uzzle

Easily one of the most alluring features of Sabine Lake area is the fact that you can catch so many different species of fish in a relatively small area. The brackish water holds both fresh and saltwater fish in good numbers as well as quality. It's never uncommon to see a stringer of fish include flounder, redfish, speckled trout, and an occasional really nice largemouth bass.

The potential for all these fish to be in the same body of water makes each strike that much more exciting because you never know who will show up to crash the party.

Speaking of not knowing who will show up, it's really going to get interesting as the summer progresses and we remain stuck in these dry conditions. In years past when we have had dry spring seasons with little or no significant run off from either

Toledo Bend or Sam Rayburn a whole new group of fish begins to show up. Species like Jack Crevalle, sharks,

rays, and even tarpon will make the trek up the river as the saltwater slowly creeps farther inland. These party crashers often show up and make their presence known in the form of screaming drags and great "the one that got away" stories. Nothing gets your attention like the prospect of getting spooled and actually having to chase a fish down. In areas where lots of local anglers congregate it's often an absolute circus when someone hooks up with a stud jack in the middle of the armada of boats. The chase scene that ensues is like something from the Bourne Identity, boats weaving in and out avoiding everything from anchor lines to fishing lines.

Nothing like the prospect of catching "the big one", it's why we fish.

Speaking of big fish and areas where people congregate you can bet that this month there will be some great fish taken at the jetties. A few very dedicated anglers will take advantage of the ultra early bite before the masses reach the rocks. Good tide changes a few hours before dawn and all the traffic is a winning recipe to help tangle with some big fish, especially trout. There are very few strikes that are as vicious as speckled trout at the jetties on topwater plugs in the dark. I used to wonder what those boats were doing heading back to the dock as the sun was just breaking the horizon until I got a chance to try out the pattern myself. All I can say is the reward is well worth the effort.

Now if fishing in the dark is not your favorite don't worry because you can still be successful during daylight hours with a just a

small variation to the pattern. Topwater plugs worked in and around the rocks will still produce some fish when the sun comes up but swim baits will just flat wear those fish out. There are several styles of swim bait you can use and they all work. The conventional plastic swim bait with a paddle tail is a great option, especially when it's fished on a light jig head to allow for a slower fall and more subtle presentation. The other "swim bait" is a shallow running crank bait like the Swimming Image, Mann's 1 Mi-

nus, or Rapala. These plugs are really user friendly and allow the fishermen the opportunity to dig around in and or bounce off the rocks triggering brutal strikes from some hefty speckled

trout and redfish. The other great thing about all the swim baits is that they allow you to cover lots and lots of water in a short period of time making you much more productive.

Bridge City Little League
will hold their **2023 - 2024 Board of Director Elections on Thursday, May 25th from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm.**
If interested, please sign up in the **BCLL Board Room** or see a board member.

BC Library hosts widowed support group

The Bridge City Public Library will continue its Widows/Widowers group after the success of its opening meeting. The group's purpose is to provide an opportunity for those who often lead lonely lives after the death of a spouse to have an outlet to share with others in the same situation. It is not a dating group but a place to gather, share with others and to play games as entertainment. Snacks and coffee will be provided.

We do require participants to call the library the Monday before the Friday of the meeting so that we can know how many to plan for.

Planned meetings will be from 10 am to noon on the following Fridays, May 5, May 19, June 2, June 16 and July 7 and July 21. If you have any questions, call the library at 409-735-4242. We look forward to getting to know you.

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Wise Women Build Homes

Scott Hubbard
Editor
desiringGod.org

“Do you ever remember your mom helping you put your clothes on?”

The question came from my wife, a mother of two young boys who have not yet mastered the art of getting dressed. I thumbed through the files of those early years and came up blank, the thousands of pant-pull-ups and shirt-put-ons lost to conscious memory. My wife came up blank too.

It was a humbling moment, as we imagined our boys, thirty years from now, remembering almost nothing of these everyday routines. It was also a moment — and they seem to come often these days — that put motherhood in a new and hallowed light.

“The wisest of women builds her house,” Solomon tells us (Proverbs 14:1) — and house-building, I am learning, is both beautiful and forgettable. Essential and often unnoticed. One of the world’s most important tasks, and one of the most easily overlooked. Clothing children, feeding children, teaching children, disciplining children — this is brickwork: painful and painstaking, slow going and mundane.

But if you follow godly men and women back to their beginnings, you will often find a mother pulling a foot through a pant leg, reciting a psalm from a smudged index card, and through ten thousand other small moments, building a



house whose walls gleam with godly wisdom and whose floors rest on the fear of the Lord.

Two Women, Two Homes

The book of Proverbs, like much wisdom literature, describes two ways to live. And at the heart of these two ways are two women and two homes: Lady Wisdom and “her house” (Proverbs 9:1), Woman Folly and “her house” (Proverbs 9:13–14). Both women call out to the simple (Proverbs 9:3, 15); both invite the young and immature to “turn in here” (Proverbs 9:4, 16). But while those in Wisdom’s home find life (Proverbs 9:6, 11), Folly’s door leads to death (Proverbs 9:18).

We might assume these women are no more than creative literary devices, personifications of two life paths. But Proverbs invites us to see more. In this book addressed mainly to sons, one of the greatest recurring dangers appears in the figure of the “forbidden woman,” a real-life temptress who seduces simple men (Proverbs 7:5, 21).

Proverbs portrays her as Folly incarnate (Proverbs 7:11; 9:13), the ruin of many sons (Proverbs 7:26).

Meanwhile, however, Lady Wisdom also appears in bodily form, ultimately in the figure of the godly wife. Just as wisdom crowns a man (Proverbs 4:9), so too does an excellent wife (Proverbs 12:4). Just as “whoever finds [wisdom] finds life and obtains favor from the Lord” (Proverbs 8:35), so “he who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord” (Proverbs 18:22). Proverbs ends with a poem portraying such a woman, who not only “opens her mouth with wisdom” (Proverbs 31:26) but is Lady Wisdom in wifely form (Proverbs 8:11; 31:10).

Yet before a man meets Lady Wisdom as wife, he is meant to meet her as mother.

Mother Wisdom

The book of Proverbs culminates with a mother’s teaching to her son (Proverbs 31:1). Long before Proverbs 31, however, the book teaches us to see a

godly mother as Lady Wisdom’s first embodiment. Note the similarity between Proverbs 9:1 (about Lady Wisdom) and Proverbs 14:1 (about wise mothers):

• *Wisdom has built her house. (Proverbs 9:1)*

• *The wisest of women builds her house. (Proverbs 14:1)*

More is happening in the small moments of motherhood than meets the eye. As an imperfect but God-fearing woman builds her house, she becomes for her children Wisdom’s first face, first voice, first touch. Through her daily presence, children learn what Wisdom looks like and feels like; through her daily words, children hear Wisdom’s plea: “O sons, listen to me. . . Leave your simple ways, and live” (Proverbs 8:32; 9:6).

At the crossroads between life and death, then, Proverbs would have us picture a woman, a mother, teaching and calling and living such that her children choose the fear of the Lord, choose wisdom, choose life. Her voice may not sound as loud as Woman Folly’s (Proverbs 9:13);

she may often be hidden from public view; her work may sometimes seem as forgettable as fastening a Velcro strap on a toddler’s shoe. But over time, her home becomes the very children who scorn the house of Folly.

Heart of the Family

Of course, a father stands at the crossroads between life and death as well. Much of the direct teaching in Proverbs, in fact, comes from a father to his sons. Like Lady Wisdom, he too instructs and warns and pleads with his children to choose life (Proverbs 3:13–18), and he appears throughout chapters 1–9 as the family’s primary teacher and exhorter (Proverbs 1:8; 3:12; 4:1; 6:20). Even still, Proverbs personifies wisdom as a woman and then embodies her in the real-life figures of wife and mother. Why?

Surely in part because a father’s influence in the home, though deep and foundational, is also limited by the typical calling God places upon him. In Proverbs 31, the husband and father is standing “in the gates” (Proverbs 31:23), away from home, while the wife and mother “looks well to the ways of her household” (Proverbs 31:27).

This father, no doubt, spends much time at home — and this mother, we know, is not afraid to venture into the marketplace (Proverbs 31:18, 24). But in the complementary union of husband and wife, his daytime calling leans more toward society, while hers leans more toward family. And therefore, as

home-builder, home-maker, home-keeper, she is wisdom’s steady presence through so many hours when her husband cannot be.

Even in families where a mother sometimes works outside the home, Herman Bavinck’s observation still often holds true: A mother’s profound influence on her children, then, comes not in spite of her seemingly small work in small places, but precisely because of it.

When Her Children Rise My young sons do not yet grasp the gift God has given them in this mother “who fears the Lord” (Proverbs 31:30). In all likelihood, they will not remember how she lifted them onto the potty or gently sang God’s praises this morning. But day by day, they are feeling the touch and hearing the voice of Lady Wisdom. And when, God willing, they learn to embrace her for themselves (and the Christ she represents), they will no doubt add their voices to the children of the wise:

The praiseworthy hero, as often happens in God’s kingdom, is not the one our society would expect: not the big, but the small; not the well-known, but the obscure; not the woman wrestling men in the movies, but the woman wrestling a T-shirt over a toddler’s head. When we rise up and call her blessed, we anticipate the day when everything hidden will be revealed and the forgotten labors of every wise mother will be proclaimed from the housetops.

“The wisest of women builds her house,” Solomon tells us. And our wisdom is to rejoice in such a woman.

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Jeremiah 29:11-13

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare[a] and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.”

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